

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 L-03 NSC-10

SS-15 AGR-20 RSR-01 /155 W
----- 121993

R 041545 Z MAY 73 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6062
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS HELSINKI 1186

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, FI, EEC

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER SORSA' S MAY 1 COMMENTS ON EC

THE FOLLOWING TWO PARAGRAPHS TRANSMIT A VERBATIM TRANSLATION MADE BY THE EMBASSY OF PRIME MINISTER SORSA' S REMARKS ON FINLAND' S EUROPEAN TRADE RELATIONSHIPS WHICH HE DELIVERED IN A MAY 1 SPEECH IN JYVASKYLA IN CENTRAL FINLAND. THIS IS THE CLEAREST PUBLIC INDICATION OF FINLAND' S INTENTION TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT WITH THE EC THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAS MADE TO DATE. A ROUNDUP OF OTHER MAY DAY SPEECHES AND ACTIVITIES WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL.

" WE WITHIN THE LEFT AGREE THAT OUR COMMERCIAL POLICY DECISIONS MUST NOT DISTORT OUR LINE OF FOREIGN POLICY WHICH BEARS THE NAME OF PAASIKIVI AND KEKKONEN. THUS NEITHER PARTY (SDP OR SKP) HAS AT ANY STAGE EVEN THOUGHT OF (FINLAND) JOINING THE EEC WHICH MAY IN THE FUTURE ALSO BECOME A POLITICAL UNIT. ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS RECOGNIZE THAT A CONTINUATION OF OUR TRADE WITH THE EXPANDED EEC, OUR MAIN CLIENT, SO THAT FINNISH WORK IS UNCLASSIFIED

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NOT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST, IS AN IMPORTANT CONDITION FOR THE GROWTH OF OUR WELFARE. IF WE DIDN' T REACH AN AGREEMENT ON THIS, WE WOULD HAVE TO SELL OUR PRODUCTS 10-15 PERCENT CHEAPER THAN THE COMPETING COUNTRIES AND THIS, FOR ITS PART, WOULD CORRES-

PONDINGLY REDUCE ALL OUR INCOMES.

" THE SDP DEMANDS AN OVERALL POLICY IN ORDER TO SOLVE THE OVER-ALL PROBLEM. WHILE AN IMPARTIAL TREATMENT OF THE WORK OF THE FINNISH WORKER IS SECURED ON THE WEST EUROPEAN MARKETS, ONE MUST ALSO EXPAND THE POSSIBILITIES FOR TRADE WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. THIS ALL IS BEING DONE EFFICIENTLY AND WITH PROGRESS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, AND AFTER I RECENTLY HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH LEADERS OF SEVERAL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, I CAN GIVE YOU MY PERSONAL ASSURANCE THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT ARE EXCELLENT. LEGAL PROPOSALS TO SECURE THE INDEPENDENCE OF ECONOMIC DECISION- MAKING -- THE THIRD BASIC CONDITION OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COMMERCIAL POLICY -- HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN PARLIAMENT. ESSENTIAL PROGRESS CANNOT BE EXPECTED IN OTHER FIELDS EITHER BEFORE THEIR FATE IS SATISFACTORILY SETTLED."

WHITE

UNCLASSIFIED

NMAFVVZCZ

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TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, FI, EEC
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MOSCOW
OSLO
STOCKHOLM
EC BRUSSELS
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